

# UNITED STATES DEPARATED ENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

Address: Box ISSUE FEE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

### NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

18M2/1016

NORVAL B. GALLOLWAY AMOCO CORP. AMOCO TECH. LAW DEPT. 3100 WOODCREEK DRIVE

APPLICATION NO. TO GITTO	FILING DATE 5 0 5 1 5	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP A	RT UNIT	DATE MAILED
First Named 08/238, 080	05/03/94	040	REES, D	1807	10/16/97

TITLE OF INVENTION

COLLINS.

MARK L.

TARGET AND BACKGROUND CAPTURE METHODS WITH AMPLIFICATION FOR AFFINITY

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
			<u> </u>			DAIL DOL
14						
T * TOPGOIL	435-01	06.000	TIS UTI	LITY MU	\$1320.0	/U U1/16/98

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN <u>THREE MONTHS</u> FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. <u>THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.</u>

### HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

- I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as yes, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:
  - A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
  - B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.
- If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:
- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.
- II. Part B of this notice should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "6b" of Part B should be completed.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communication prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

	A PARI B-155U	E FEE TRAN	SMITTAL: 1912-100	10	
MAJLING INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be	e used wismitting the ISSUE	FFE Blocks 2 th	rough 6-st	ita All futher normanas de	
including the issue Fee Receipt, the Patent, advancy of specifying new correspondence address in	nce orde and notification of mai	intenance fees wi	ill be mailed reses entered in Block 1	ite. All futher corresponde unless you direct otherwi	
or issue ree or trierealiter. See reverse for Certificati	e of Mailing; below.			•	
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no perso	ons are required to respond to a coll	lection of information			
Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary epending on the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time required to			2. INVENTOR(S) ADDRESS CHANGE (Complete only if there is a change)		
complete this form should be sent to the Chief Info	rmation Officer, Patent and Trade	emark Office,	INVENTOR'S NAME		
DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO	THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Box is	sue Fee,	Street Address	Ten Pico	
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C.	20231		City, State and Zip Code	no to	
1. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS			CO-INVENTOR'S NAME	10i, 10	
	المراجع والمعاور المحارات	/	Street Address	3° 79'8'0n	
THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE LOCAL	\SMS: YA:	101%	U.		
ATE TO LITE			City, State and Zip Code		
A STATE OF THE STA	that I a	\	Check if additional changes are enclosed		
A STATE OF THE STA	To the second second		Check is additional craingles are enclosed	•	
APPLICATION NO. FILING DAT	TOTAL CLAIMS		EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED	
238080		7	-		
•					
First Named) E/2010, 000, 000/0 Applicant	3/94 1 840	REES, I	1807	7 10/16/97	
TLE OF	MARK	.,			
VENTION	trestints.	k. II			
ARANA KAN BRUKURU ASINTI	UND CAPTURE MET	HODS WIT	H AMPLIFICATION FOR A	AFFINITY	
ATTY'S DOCKET NO. CLASS-SUB	CLASS BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY FEE DUE	DATE DUE	
			,		
			•		
Correspondence address change (Complete only if the	here is a change)	4. For printing	on the patent front	the same of the country of the country	
/28/1992 BERGER 00000128 08238080 -FC:142 1320.00	on ·	3 registered	patent attorneys or agents	B. Galloway	
1350,00	ur ·	OR, alterna	tively, the name of a firm		
		Haveig as a	member a registered 2	•	
**************************************		attorney or	member a registered 2agent. If no name is listed,		
· Edition		attorney or	member a registered 2		
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (prin	it or type)	attorney or	member a registered 2agent. If no name is listed,		
SSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print) NAME OF ASSIGNEE:  AMOCO CORPORATION	rt or type)	attorney or	a member a registered 2 agent. If no name is listed, III be printed. 3 3 6a. The following fees are enclosed:		
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print) NAME OF ASSIGNEE:  AMOCO CORPORATION 2) ADDRESS-(CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY)	t or type)	attorney or	a member a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  3  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  State Fee   Advance Order - # of Copi		
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print) NAME OF ASSIGNEE:  AMOCO CORPORATION	rt or type)	attorney or	a member a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  Calculate the control of the contro		
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print) NAME OF ASSIGNEE:  AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY)  Chicago, Illinois	it or type)	attorney or	a member a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  State Fee	<u> </u>	
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print) NAME OF ASSIGNEE:  AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY)  Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.		attorney or	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  3  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  123 Issue Fee	ies	
Assignment previously submitted under separate cover. Assignment is being submitted under separate cover.	nark Office gnment should be	attorney or no name wi	a member a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  State Fee	ies	
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print)  1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden Assignment is being submitted under separate cover. Assignificated to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Biocinclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an appropriate when a property appropriate when an appropriate when a property appropriate appropriate when a property appropriate when a property appropriate appropri	nark Office gnment should be xk 5, no assignee data will appear on the p assignment has been perviously submitte	attorney or no name wi	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  State Fee	RKS is (Date)	
Assignment is being submitted under separate cover.	nark Office gnment should be xk 5, no assignee data will appear on the p assignment has been perviously submitte	attorney or no name wi	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  153 Issue Fee	RKS is (Date) 1/9/98	
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print)  1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden Assignment is being submitted under separate cover. Assignificated to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloc Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an a PTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Comple	nark Office gnment should be x 5, no assignee data will appear on the assignment has been perviously submitte etion of this form is NOT a substitute for fil	attorney or no name wi	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  State Fee	ies	
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print)  1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  1 This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden assignment is being submitted under separate cover. Assignificated to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloc inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an aptro or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion an assignment.	nark Office gnment should be  x 5, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submitted should be substitute for file.  Certificat	attorney or no name wi	a member a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  Status Fee	AKS is (Date)  1/9/98  corner than the server or other party rademark Office.	
ASSIGNMENT DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print)  AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS-(CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY)  Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden directed to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloc Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an apt or is being submitted under separate cover. Completing an assignment.	nark Office gnment should be  x 5, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submitted etion of this form is NOT a substitute for fill the control of the contro	patent. d to the illing e. This certificate	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  Status Fee	AKS is (Date)  1/9/98  corber than the server or other party rademark Office.	
ASSIGNMENT DATATO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print (1)) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION (2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden (directed to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloc Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an a PTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completan assignment.  The if this certificate of mailing is used, it can be inched additional paper, such as an assignment or ereby certify that this correspondence is being	nark Office gnment should be  this, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submitted at the storn of this form is NOT a substitute for file the control of th	patent. d to the illing e. This certificate of the corn certificate of the cor	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  Calculate the following fees should be charged to:  DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NUMBER 22-0590  (ENCLOSE A COPY OF THIS FORM)  Issue Fee Advance Order - # of Copies Any Deficiencies in Enclosed Fees  The COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMAF requested to apply the Issue Fee to the application ider  Authorized Signature)  NOTE: The Issue Fee will not be accepted from anyone applicant; a registered attorney/or agent; or the assigned in interest as shown by the records of the Patent and Time accompany of mailing.	arkS is (Date) 1/9/98 coher than the left or other party rademark Office.	
ASSIGNMENT DATATO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print 1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden Assignment is being submitted under separate cover. Assignificated to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloc Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an a PTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completan assignment.  Attention of the control of the cover of t	nark Office gnment should be  x 5, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submitteetion of this form is NOT a substitute for file to the control of the contr	patent. d to the illing e. This certificate of the corn certificate of the cor	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  Calculate the following fees should be charged to:  DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NUMBER 22-0590  (ENCLOSE A COPY OF THIS FORM)  Issue Fee Advance Order - # of Copies Any Deficiencies in Enclosed Fees  The COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMAF requested to apply the Issue Fee to the application ider  Authorized Signature)  NOTE: The Issue Fee will not be accepted from anyone applicant; a registered attorney/or agent; or the assigned in interest as shown by the records of the Patent and Time accompany of mailing.	arkS is (Date) 1/9/98 coher than the left or other party rademark Office.	
ASSIGNMENT DATATO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print 1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden Assignment is being submitted under separate cover. Assignificated to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloc Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an a PTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completan assignment.  Attention of the control of the cover of t	nark Office gnment should be  this, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submittention of this form is NOT a substitute for file to the control of the cont	patent. d to the illing e. This certificate of the corn certificate of the cor	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  Calculate the following fees should be charged to:  DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NUMBER 22-0590  (ENCLOSE A COPY OF THIS FORM)  Issue Fee Advance Order - # of Copies Any Deficiencies in Enclosed Fees  The COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMAF requested to apply the Issue Fee to the application ider  Authorized Signature)  NOTE: The Issue Fee will not be accepted from anyone applicant; a registered attorney/or agent; or the assigned in interest as shown by the records of the Patent and Time accompany of mailing.	RKS is (Date) 1/9/98 coher than the left or other party rademark Office.	
ASSIGNMENT DATATO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print (1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  (2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden Assignment is being submitted under separate cover. Assignificated to Box ASSIGNMENTS:  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloch Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an approor is being submitted under separate cover. Complete an assignment.  The certificate of mailing is used, it can be accepted to the control of the c	nark Office gnment should be  x 5, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submitted etion of this form is NOT a substitute for file  Certificate a used to transmit the Issue Feet formal drawing, must have its of deposited with the United State ssioner for Patents 20231	patent. d to the illing e. This certificate of the corn certificate of the cor	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  Calculate the following fees should be charged to:  DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NUMBER 22-0590  (ENCLOSE A COPY OF THIS FORM)  Issue Fee Advance Order - # of Copies Any Deficiencies in Enclosed Fees  The COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMAF requested to apply the Issue Fee to the application ider  Authorized Signature)  NOTE: The Issue Fee will not be accepted from anyone applicant; a registered attorney/or agent; or the assigned in interest as shown by the records of the Patent and Time accompany of mailing.	AKS is (Date) 1/9/98 coher than the left or other party rademark Office.	
ASSIGNMENT DATATO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print (1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  (2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden Assignment is being submitted under separate cover. Assigneed to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloc Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an apto or is being submitted under separate cover. Completan assignment.  The certificate of mailing is used, it can be ach additional paper, such as an assignment or ereby certify that this correspondence is being envelope addressed to:  Box ISSUE FEE Assistant Commission (1) Assignment (2) Assistant Commission (3) Assignment (3) Assistant Commission (4) Assignment (4) Assistant (4) Assistant (5) Assistant (5) Assistant (6) Assistant (6) Assistant (6) Assistant (6) Assistant (7) Assistant (8) Assistant	nark Office gnment should be  x 5, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submitted enter the substitute for file to used to transmit the Issue Feet formal drawing, must have its of deposited with the United State saloner for Patents 20231  (Date)	patent. d to the liling e. This certificate own certificate of es Postal Service	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  153 Issue Fee	AKS is (Date) 1/9/98 coher than the left or other party rademark Office.	
ASSIGNMENT DATATO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print (1) NAME OF ASSIGNEE: AMOCO CORPORATION  (2) ADDRESS: (CITY & STATE OR COUNTRY) Chicago, Illinois  This application is NOT assigned.  Assignment previously submitted to the Patent and Traden are provided to Box ASSIGNMENTS.  PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified in Bloch inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an approvided in the provided and assignment.  The certificate of mailing is used, it can be calculated to the provided in the provided and assignment.  The certificate of mailing is used, it can be calculated and paper, such as an assignment or dereby certify that this correspondence is being envelope addressed to:  Box ISSUE FEE Assistant Commission (1) Assignment (1) Assistant Commission (1) Assignment (1) Assistant Commission (1) Assistant (2) Assistant Commission (1) Assistant (2) Asistant (2) Assistant (2) Assistant (2) Assistant (2) Assistant (2	nark Office gnment should be  x 5, no assignee data will appear on the passignment has been perviously submitted enter the substitute for file to used to transmit the Issue Feet formal drawing, must have its of deposited with the United State saloner for Patents 20231  (Date)	patent. d to the lling e. This certificate of the c	amember a registered agent. If no name is listed, ill be printed.  6a. The following fees are enclosed:  153 Issue Fee	AKS is (Date) 1/9/98 coher than the left or other party rademark Office.	

## Notice of Allowability

Application No.

Applicant(s) 08/238,080

Collins et al.

Examiner

Dianne Rees

Group Art Unit 1807



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.
$\boxtimes$ This communication is responsive to $\underline{7/10/97,7/14/97}$ .
$oxed{oxed}$ The allowed claim(s) is/are $\underline{25\text{-}50}$ and $\underline{53\text{-}66}$
☐ The drawings filed on are acceptable.
☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
received.
received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number)
$\square$ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*Certified copies not received:
☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).
Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
☒ Āpplicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. $22$ .
including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on, which has been approved by the examiner.
including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.
latentifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal lettter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.
☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.
Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.
Attachment(s)
□ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s).
☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413 ☐ Functionals Amanda and Community  ☐ Functionals Amanda and Community
Examiner's Amendment/Comment  Examiner's Amendment/Comment  Examiner's Comment Respecting Requirement for Deposit of Rielegies Meterial
<ul> <li>Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> <li>Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> </ul>
™ ryammer a pratement of Deapons for Mitomatice

Serial Number: 08238080 Page 2

Art Unit:

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims are drawn to methods of PCR amplification wherein the target is first separated from the sample by using a support that binds to the target polynucleotide and then amplified. In further embodiments of the invention a probe is contacted to a target and the target probe complexes then contacted to the support which binds to the probe and the support and complex are separated from the medium, The probe target complex is then leased into a second medium and substantially separated from the support and the target is subsequently amplified. The instant application has priority to 10/23/86

The closest prior art is Vary et al and Henson et al. Vary et al teaches a method for amplifying and detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample comprising amplifying the target polynucleotide by primer extension, immobilizing the amplified polynucleotide on a support, separating the amplified polynucleotide and detecting said polynucleotide. Vary et al does not teach binding a target polynucleotide to the support prior to amplification and does not teach retrievable supports. Henson et a teaches general methods of isolating a target sequence of interest from a sample by immobilization onto a solid support and that the order of reaction

Serial Number: 08238080 Page 3

Art Unit:

between a single stranded nucleic acid and a probe and a support may be varied according to experimental needs. However, the art at the time of filing did not recognize that the efficiency of PCR amplification would decrease due to the presence of contaminants in a sample and therefore provided no motivation to purify a target sample from a heterogenous sample of nucleic acids prior to amplification. Having not recognized the problem, applicant's solution therefore, while utilizing routine methodology to modify PCR amplification techniques, would not have been obvious at the time that the invention was made. The Declaration of Dr. David Pershing, further supports this conclusion as providing further evidence concerning the skill of the art at the time of filing, attesting that one of skill in the art would likely stay away from combining a hybridization capture method with a PCR method since one would not be motivated to provide a method with the potential to lose target nucleic acids prior to amplification.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit:

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner 2. should be directed to Dianne Rees whose telephone number is (703) 308-6565.

W. GARY JONES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 1800
(0/14/97)

October 13, 1997